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PTO/SB/21 (08-03)

<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b> <i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i>		Application Number	10/039,849
		Filing Date	October 19, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Naoki Hino
		Art Unit	2184
		Examiner Name	R. Beausoliel
Total Number of Pages in This Submission		Attorney Docket Number	16869P-034500US

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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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Remarks		The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT	
Firm or Individual	Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP Robert C. Colwell Reg. No. 27,431
Signature	
Date	10/17/03

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING			
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.			
Typed or printed name	Roger Hylton		
Signature		Date	OCT 20, 2003



PATENT  
Attorney Docket No.: 16869P-034500US  
Client Reference No.: 3401000044US2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Naoki Hino, et al.

Application No.: 10/039,849

Filed: October 19, 2001

For: DATA STORAGE SYSTEM

Examiner: R. Beausoliel

Art Unit: 2184

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §1.97 and  
§1.98

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR 1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Naoki Hino, et al.  
Application No.: 10/039,849  
Page 2

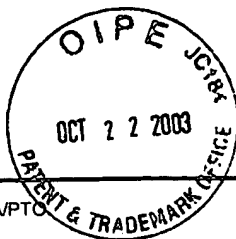
PATENT

Respectfully submitted,



Robert C. Colwell  
Reg. No. 27,431

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PTO/SB/08A (08-03)

<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	10/039,849	
			Filing Date	October 19, 2001	
			First Named Inventor	Naoki Hino	
			Art Unit	2184	
			Examiner Name	R. Beausoliel	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	16869P-034500US

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS+					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
	1	US-2002/0095549	07-18-2002	Matsunami et al.	
	2	US-2002/0091898	07-11-2002	Matsunami et al.	
	3	US-6,542,961	04-01-2003	Matsunami et al.	
	4	US-5,210,848	05-11-1993	Liu	
	5	US-4,484,267	11-20-1984	Fletcher	

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				

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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.  
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